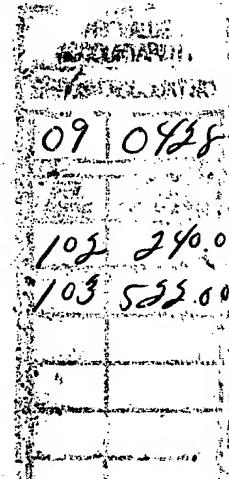


#3A Pre. Andy.  
J. Brunson  
7/2/01

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In Re Application of: )  
Robert D. Symonds, et al. )  
 )  
Serial No.: )  
(Division of 09/483,104 filed 01/14/00) )  
 )  
Filed: Herewith )  
 )  
For: Financial Transaction Processing  
System and Method )

Prior Application Assigned To:  
 )  
Art Unit: 2876  
 )  
Patent Examiner:  
Jared Fureman



PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Box Patent Application  
Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks  
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

Kindly amend the above-identified Application filed herewith prior to examination as

07/10/2001 JAC/MLH 00000005 090428 09867183

01 FC:102 240.00 CH  
02 FC:103 In the Specification

Kindly amend the Specification as follows:

Page 1, before the first line, insert the following paragraph:

*AI*  
This application is a divisional of co-pending application Serial No. 09/483,104 filed January 14, 2000 which is a divisional of Serial No. 08/813,510 filed March, 7, 1997, now Patent No. 6,039,245, which claims the benefit of U.S. Provisional Application No. 60/019,544 filed June 10, 1996, U.S. Provisional Application No. 60/021,871 filed July 17, 1996, and U.S. Provisional Application No. 60/025,266 filed September 17, 1996.--